

Old Lesson and Story Books

With all the advantages attained to in the twentieth century, it seems a difficult matter to select a story and lesson book for the children which afford such keen enjoyment as that gleaned by boys and girls from their "primers" and "readers," a generation or two earlier.

Looking back to the childhood days a picture comes up of a little girl who sat beside her mother and lovingly mastered the intricacies of the alphabet and an early spelling book, while feeding an active imagination with what seemed in her "reader" to be the most wonderful romances in the world. Perhaps additional color and beauty were given what she read by the ready sympathy of the gentle presence which was associated with all of her childhood's truest joys. Perhaps the well worn pages might never have seemed such a fascinating mine of unexplored mystery had not their meaning been made plain and their moral sent home in a way that none but mothers can comprehend.

Just then Hugh's mother came, and, of course, she understood. She took Hugh in her arms and when his sobs were checked, she went to the bottom of the trouble. She acknowledged that there were many hopes and ambitions which he must forego. He could never be a soldier or a sailor. He could never take an active part in any out of door sports and enjoyments. But, if he so willed it, he could endure his trouble bravely and make, of what remained to him, a life that might be a blessing to himself and others.

She reminded him of Huber, who was deprived of his eyesight, when he seemed to be on the verge of discoveries which might have proved to be of the greatest importance to himself and to humanity. She cited Beethoven, who, while deaf himself, held through inspired by his matchless music. She inspired him with courage and determination. He was a little dainty victor over self, to conquer fate and adjust his nature to trials which must be endured.

This is the end of that story. It was very simply told, but it seemed more than delightful for the immersion. It made then on the "little girl's" mind is fresh after the lapse of many years and of many sorrows.

The range of subjects in the old-fashioned readers was very wide, bringing in extracts from all well known authors in prose and poetry, and giving sketches of most famous personages. The "little girl's" heart glowed in them with the story of William Tell and she dropped burning tears over the glorious fate of Arnold Winkelried, who "made way for liberty" when he broke the Austrian phalanx. The image of Napoleon wrapped in his gray surcoat, crossing the Alps, matched in with Phillips's eloquent estimate of his character "the man without a model and without a shadow" which came later.

Byron's "Apostrophe to the Ocean" and William Cullen Bryant's "Death of the Flowers" were read so often that not a line in either has ever been forgotten by the "little girl." Usually admitted was "The Closing Year" by Prentice; "Marco Bozaris" by Halleck, and a host of other selections in poetry and prose.

It seems certainly true to the "little girl" whenever in her gray-haired maturity she turns the pages of her book of olden days, that all of her literary tastes and inclinations received their bias from the "readers" which the children of to-day turn from in distaste, pronouncing them "dry and uninteresting."

What the reason of this difference may be, it is hard to tell. The "little girl" in nothing it can but feel sorry for children who are unable to have reversion as she does to "primer and reader," as to the devoted of childhood's friends, friends that have never grown cold or proved false, whose help and instruction must always be gratefully acknowledged and as gratefully repaid.

YOUNG MAN LOSES LIFE UNDER ENGINE'S WHEELS

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BOYDTON, VA., March 19.—Robert Curtis, a son of Mr. Charles Curtis, who lives near Union Level, was instantly killed on Wednesday night at Lawrencetown by being run over by a train of cars.

Young Curtis had been with the railroad some three or four months, and on the fatal night he jumped upon the pilot to the engine and fell. The engine passed over him. His body was frightfully mangled. The remains were brought to the hospital at Union Level on yesterday for interment.

Tailor-Made Suits, Coats, Skirts and Waists

An Interesting Exhibit and Sale of 1904 Models—Such Grades at Such Prices Are Indeed a Rarity.

Indisputably the greatest beginning-of-the-season values this or any other Richmond house ever gave. A glance at any of these garments will prove it—a closer inspection will more deeply impress you with that fact. It will convince you that these garments are of a superior order—that the prices are incredibly low.

The supremacy of our Women's Outer Garment Department could only have been achieved through exceptional values in the most advanced and fashion-sanctioned modes and materials. To maintain this leadership is our purpose.

Sheer White Cottons, the First Notice for Easter. Confirmation, Graduation and Wedding Fabrics

Centuries of precedent have decreed white as symbolical of purity. Fashion has laid her seal of everlasting approval upon white fabrics as the most appropriate for these momentous occasions in a girl's life. White is becoming to everyone. Who ever dared to say the girl is not pretty in her confirmation dress—that she is not very sweet when later she graduates, or, still later, that she is not a lovely woman in her wedding gown of white?

For just this preparation we have the 32-inch Persian Lawns, from 12½c. to 30c. yard. 48-inch Wash Chiffons, beautiful for evening, at 40c. to 60c. yard. 40-inch Lawns, fine and sheer, at 12½c., 15c., 16½c. and 20c. yard. 32-inch Swiss Mulls, fine and pretty, at 25c. yard. New White Waistings, fancy designs, 25c. to 75c. yard. Dotted Silk Mulls, in delicate shades, cream and white, at 25c. yard. 75 pieces of White Madras, stripes and figures, 27 to 36 inches wide, a 17c. value, for 12½c. a yard. 15c. grade Long Cloth and Nainsook, 36 inches wide, for 12½c. yard.

ARTISTIC SPRING LACES.

All the latest fancies that are to mark the greatest season ever known to Lacedom, come together for a showing. The season's daintiest effects in beautiful Net Top Laces, handsome St. Gall Bands and Galloons, French Novelities and Medallions. A choice assortment of patterns in Point Gaze, Tenerife, Paraguay, Tenerife-Crochet, Lierre and Oriental. The new button and seed effect in bands, galloons, edges and allover laces. All on sale at EXCEPTIONALLY LOW PRICES.

NEW DRESS TRIMMINGS.

Persian designs with gold combination, silk embroidery on chiffon, handsome black spangle trimming in bands and motifs, Bulgarian and Persian embroidery on linen bands, and a choice line of braid in new patterns for tailor gowns. All at the extreme of POPULAR PRICES.



At the Theatres.

AT THE ACADEMY.

Wednesday, Matinee and Night, "The Funny Mr. Dooley."
Friday Night, "The Professor's Love Story."
Saturday, Matinee and Night, "The Chaperons."

AT THE BIJOU.

All the Week, Bijou Opera Company.

There will be three attractions at the Academy this week, two of them musical comedies and the third that delightful romantic comedy from Barrie's pen, "The Professor's Love Story."

Beresford, who plays the professor, was seen in the early part of the season in this city, and the impression he made was a splendid one. His company is a fine one, well equipped with scenery, and the play itself is one of the most charming that has ever been sent on the road. "The Funny Mr. Dooley" comes with high recommendations as a musical comedy, while the "chaperons" was one of the big New York hits, and is on the road equipped with all of the attention to detail and fairness to audiences that characterizes the work of Henry M. Savage.

Bijou Opera Company.

The new week will mark the initial appearance of the Bijou Opera Company, organized during the past month by the Wells-Dunne-Harlan Company, and which is to play the Wells theatrical circuit. Not only is the company a new one to the city and the South, but the operas which are to be presented are also new. They are "The Ameer" and "The Idol's Eye," plays in which the celebrated comedian, Frank Daniels, made such a reputation and success during the past two seasons. The plays have been purchased in their entirety by the Wells-Dunne-Harlan Company, including the handsome costumes, the scenery and all the accessories to the successful production of the operas.

"The Ameer" is to be the bill all of this week. It is a comic opera, its sole purpose being to exploit and develop the voice and talents of several singers of prominence. The plot, and the opera has a good plot, tells of an Ameer in Afghanistan, who has depleted his treasury and married all the rich women of his province. He gets into correspondence with an American heiress who desires a title in return for her fortune, and she starts on the journey to meet the dignitary, the preliminaries having been arranged through a Parisian matrimonial bureau. A woman of the Ameer's court plots with Blakjak, a bandit chief, to capture the

heirloom and her gold, inspired by jealousy. Then a brother of the Ameer hires Blakjak to poison the Ameer. The Ameer learns of the plot, and he turns pirate and is then captured by the pirates. While being put through a course of training, and after being "initiated" the Ameer is designated as the man who is to kill the Ameer when he is caught.

Just as everything is in readiness for the capture of the coach, the girl and her gold, troops arrive and rout the robbers. The officer in charge of the troops is the sweetheart of the American girl, and when she finds that she is free to choose her husband, she selects the soldier lover. Blakjak falls in love with her maid, and because of the failure of the brigands to arrive, with the girl and the gold the Ameer determines to marry a woman of the court who has inherited money.

In the cast of the company are William Corlies, John Wheeler, Burrell Barabretto, Harry Carter, J. W. Nicholas, Miss Alda Hernani, Miss Mae Sallor, Miss Louise Louis, Miss Zana Austin and Miss Ode Williams, and a chorus of twenty-five female voices. There are comedians of note in the cast.

"Mr. Dooley."

"The Funny Mr. Dooley," bright, witty and clean cut, with bubbling humor and native drollery, will make his first ap-

pearance here at the Academy Wednesday, matinee and night. "Mr. Dooley" is one of the brand new musical farce comedies sent out from New York this season. It is from the pen of a popular farceur, Frank D. Bryan, who is also its manager. Fifty comedy amateurs are in its cast, and it boasts of giving an enjoyable performance of catchy melody and uproarious fun. Its comedy is brisk and rollicking, with no offensive caricature element to mar its enjoyment. Witty, original musical numbers, all written for this production, attractive groupings, and dances by a raft of pretty, clever, show girls give variety and pleas-



HENRY BERESFORD.
In "The Professor's Love Story."

ing balance to the comedy, and the costuming and stage equipment are beautiful and complete. The songs of song that run through the entire three acts are immensely attractive by a big chorus of good voiced comedy girls who sing and give action and brightness to the swing of the music.

Paul Quinn, as Mr. Dooley, gives the stage a new Irishman, and Charles Smith, as Dr. Skimmer, a glib-tongued doctor, in seen for the first time out of vaudeville. The musical numbers include: "I Love Them All," "Chaffeur Boho," "Get Out of the Way," "Go Where the Crowd Goes," "When Johnny Comes Home."

"The Professor's Love Story."

The "Nashville, Tennessee, American" said of Henry Beresford in "The Professor's Love Story," who is to be seen at the Academy Friday night.

"Mr. Beresford's portrayal of Professor Goodwillie is artistic in its every moment. See him and somehow you will cease to speculate as to whether or not there is one to preserve the tradition, of such characters at least, which Sir Smith Russell sustained. It is a splendid production of a beautiful character, one that is a part that demands all attention from the actor, not one that can be carried along here and there by others. It is clearly, delicately cut, holding vast possibilities for the artist and it is for the mediocre or careless actor. It left Mr. Beresford answered its every demand and reached its peak at the highest. He is the actor who has fathomed the intent and purpose of the author, who is able to show it to you at its best. He commands your respect while he is winning your heart. He conveys to you mentally what he sees and feels, making the little details as effective and expressive as the greater moments. His is the thoughtful and intelligently studied portrayal, but in all his work there is the beautiful naturalness of the artist."

"The Chaperons" is announced for presentation at the Academy Saturday, matinee and night. This comedy opera has been the suc-

cessful seasons in the principal cities and starts on its third with a company including many of the original members and some new talent that scarcely needs introduction. The principal comedy role will be in the capable hands of John G. Sparks, who will be assisted by very commendable character actor and singer, Thomas Whiffen. Mabel Ilite, a soprano of good repute and a rollicking singer and dancer, will shine as the Chaperon and Mae Stebbins will assume the part with which she has been identified from the beginning. There is a



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chorus of forty and a dashing delegation of "show girls."

Percy Haswell Coming.
April 1st will be the opening date of the George Fawcett Company with Miss Percy Haswell at the Academy of Music.

Richmond, Va., for their spring engagement. Miss Haswell and her company will remain at the Academy for several weeks, producing a series of popular plays including "The Christian," "The Little Minister," "As You Like It," etc. Besides Miss Haswell the company will include such well known players as Evelyn Vaughan, Eugene Ormande, Alice Butler, DeWitt Jennings, Viola Burton, Regan Hughton and Frank Craven.

What He Got.
Skimpton—I said to my wife, just before Christmas, and insisted upon it, that it was my belief that in selecting holiday presents one should choose the useful instead of the merely ornamental.

Neat Retort.
Dean Farrar, soon after he went to St. Margaret's, Westminster, was dining Professor Jewett's, and toward dessert took up the parable about Dives. His voice rose higher and higher, he spread silence around him, and he was heard thundering out: "What I complain of as a clergyman is that I have to do what no layman has to do. I have to beg, and beg in vain."

Fashionable ladies come to my church, glittering with precious gems, and yet these will not sacrifice one diamond from their grand tiaras in order to save some erring sister from destruction. When he finished the silence grew sultry. All the hearers looked gloomily at their plates. Then Jewett, who had been looking at though he meant mischief, squeaked out: "What I object to as a clergyman is that I have to exaggerate so."—St. John's Gazette.

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Seven Years—Five Days.

522 Savier Street, PORTLAND, ORE., June 3, 1903.
I suffered for nearly seven years with female weakness, caused by falling of the womb. My head ached until I was unable to attend to my duties, had pains in the small of the back and pelvic organs until at times I went nearly wild. I used one kind of a medicine after another, but none did me the least bit of good until I used Wine of Cardui. When I began using it I was so weak that I could hardly walk, but within five days my strength began to return, the pains decreased and I was able to sleep. I used nineteen bottles before I was entirely cured, but I am today as strong and well as anyone could desire to be and most grateful to you for your good medicine.

Helen Peterson

WINE OF CARDUI

Mrs. Peterson suffered bearing down pains and blinding headaches for seven long years. Wine of Cardui helped her in five days.

During all these years Wine of Cardui was curing hundreds of thousands of other women of these same bearing down pains and freeing them from those same maddening headaches. It was curing the worst menstrual irregularities. It was giving blessed health to thousands of sufferers all around Mrs. Peterson. But she continued to try other remedies with no relief. It took seven long years of those bearing down pains and maddening headaches to bring Mrs. Peterson to try Wine of Cardui. Then Wine of Cardui cured her. The benefit began in five days. You are suffering like Mrs. Peterson suffered. You are neglecting Wine of Cardui like she neglected it; and just as surely as she was cured you can be cured by Wine of Cardui. All druggists sell \$1.00 bottles of Wine of Cardui.



Mrs. Helen Peterson
522 Savier St.
Portland, Oregon.